

Abstract Of The Disclosure:

A method of transmitting time division multiplexed data from a satellite terminal to a satellite wherein the satellite terminal receives a command indicating to transmit data during a frame comprising a plurality of timeslots in accordance with a timeslot reordering scheme. The timeslot reordering scheme is selected to spread data from respective satellite terminals to different timeslots throughout the frames. A processor monitors the use of channels by the satellite terminals, stores bandwidth requests using queues, allocates channels in accordance with bandwidth requests and a bandwidth allocation algorithm, and transmits the channel allocations in a frame. Timeslots not allocated to any of the satellite terminals are contention channels. The number of contention channels changes dynamically, depending on demand for the plurality of channels by the satellite terminals. Queues are provided for each channel for storing high and low priority rate requests and high and low priority volume requests. The bandwidth allocation algorithm determines the preemption of the queues, and allocation priorities.